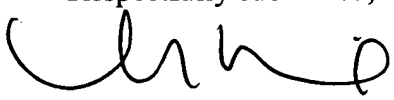
REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants note with appreciation the indication of allowance of pending claims 2-8 in the present application. As to formal matters, claim 2 has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's request so that the terms "with the laser system" have been amended to "with the laser beam delivery system." Claims 1, 9, and 10 have been canceled without prejudice pursuant to a restriction requirement. Applicants reserve the right to pursue patent protection for these inventions in a subsequently filed divisional application.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



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